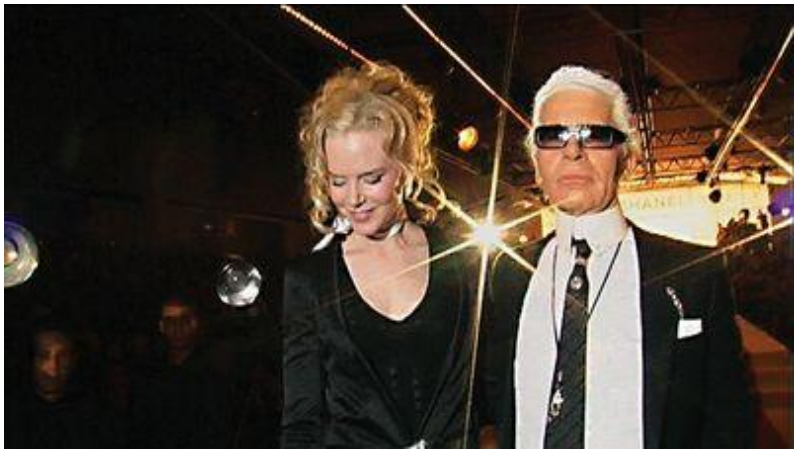
THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Laura Andrews, (216) 707-2265, landrews@clevelandart.org



Karl Lagerfeld from *Lagerfeld Confidential*

Fashion and Armor Reign Over the Cleveland Museum of Art's May Film Series

Celebrate Cleveland Fashion Week with ***Lagerfeld Confidential****;*
Colonel Wolodyjowski *showcases 16th century armor*

CLEVELAND (April 16, 2008) — The Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) highlights fashion and armor in the May Panorama Film Series with a new documentary about fashion icon Karl Lagerfeld, a classic Polish historical drama that complements CMA's current *Arms and Armor from Imperial Austria* exhibition, and a new Latvian historical drama set at the end of WWI. May also brings the final two Silk Road Movies that complement this season's VIVA! & Gala Around Town concert series on the music of Central Asia and the Near East.

Films will be shown in the CMA Lecture Hall located at 11150 East Boulevard in University Circle. Unless otherwise noted in the release, admission prices to museum films are: general public $8, CMA members $6, seniors 65 & over $5, students $4, or one Panorama voucher. Panorama Film Series vouchers (in books of 10) cost $55 for the general public, $45 for CMA members. Tickets are available in person or over the phone at the Museum Box Office, 1-888-CMA-0033. Parking is available in the CMA parking garage. Parking rates are $5 for 15 minutes to 2.5 hours, $1 per 30 minutes thereafter to $10 max,. $5 after 5 pm.

--more--

May Films:

Lagerfeld Confidential
Friday, May 2, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, May 9, 7:00 p.m.
Directed by Rodolphe Marconi, with Karl Lagerfeld, Anna Wintour, Nicole Kidman, and Baz Luhrmann. Celebrate Fashion Week Cleveland with this new documentary about legendary fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld, "the haughty high priest of haute couture" according to the BBC. The film lifts up the white ponytail and looks behind the thick shades to reveal an imperious jet-setter who loves books, cinema, and the visual arts as much as his creations for Chanel. (France, 2007, color, subtitles, 35mm, 89 min.)

Colonel Wolodyjowski
Sunday, May 4, 1:30 p.m.
Directed by Jerzy Hoffman, with Tadeusz Lomnicki and Daniel Olbrychski. Ottoman Turks invade 17th-century Poland in this battlefield epic based on the historical novel by Henryk Sienkiewicz. The movie showcases armor from the era spotlighted in our current *Arms and Armor from Imperial Austria* exhibition, and the show's curator, Stephen Fliegel, will introduce the screening. (Poland, 1969, color, subtitles, 35mm, 160 min.). **Seniors 65 & over and students $6.**

Defenders of Riga
Friday, May 30, 6:45 p.m.
Directed by Aigars Grauba. Latvia's struggle for independence (after centuries of foreign rule) is recreated in this lavish historical drama. Set one year after Latvia's declaration of independence at the end of WWI, the movie tells of a former solder who must rally his countrymen against Germans and White Russians intent on taking over the fledgling nation. Cleveland premiere. (Latvia, 2008, color, subtitles, 35mm, 123 min) **Special admission $10, CMA members, seniors and students $8; or one Panorama voucher.**

Silk Road Movies:

A focus of this year's VIVA! & Gala Around Town is the music of Central Asia and the Near East, a core region including the famous Silk Road that linked the East and West for centuries. Its music manifests the intersection of the civilizations that traversed the region, settled in it, or governed it. The musical series moves from the Central Asian countries of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, and Kalmykia to Armenia. Its distinguishable music resembles Middle Eastern and European music, Pakistani devotional music, and percussive music from Iran and Afghanistan.

Complementing the music, the museum will also show superb and eye-opening films of Central Asia and the Near East. These Silk Road Movies illuminates the region's more contemporary aspects of artistic expression.

--more--

Bab'Aziz: The Prince Who Contemplated His Soul
Saturday, May 10, 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 11, 1:30 p.m.
Directed by Nacer Khemir. In this visually stunning fable full of exotic songs and dances, a blind old Arab man and his young granddaughter venture across the barren desert toward a reunion of dervishes held every 30 years. Along the way, the elder entertains his young companion with the story of a narcissistic prince who loses his kingdom while contemplating his reflection in water. "An Arabian dream that weaves timeless story threads with mystical and Sufi elements into a beautiful film object." – *Variety*. Cleveland premiere. (Switzerland/Hungary/France/Germany/Iran/Tunisia/Britain, 2005, color, subtitles, 35mm, 96 min.)

Iran: A Cinematographic Revolution
Wednesday, May 14, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, May 16, 6:45 p.m.
Directed by Nader Takmil Homayoun. Interviews and ample film clips recount the tumultuous history of one of the most revered national cinemas in the world, which has produced world-class filmmakers like Dariush Mehrjui and Abbas Kiarostami. (France, 2006, color/b&w, subtitles, Beta SP, 98 min) Preceded at curtain time by *The Noon Gun* (Britain, 2004, 28 min.), an impressionistic portrait of a now-lost Afghanistan, shot by British filmmaker Anthony Stern in 1971.

* * *

The Cleveland Museum of Art

The Cleveland Museum of Art is renowned for the quality and breadth of its collection, which includes over 40,000 objects and spans 6,000 years. Currently undergoing a multi-year expansion project that will re-imagine the museum, it is a significant international forum for exhibitions, scholarship, and art education. The Cleveland Museum of Art is generously funded by Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture. Additional support from the Ohio Arts Council, which helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. For more information on the museum, its holdings, programs, and events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.ClevelandArt.org.

# # #

Photo credit: © Realitism Film

Movie stills and select DVD screeners available: please contact Laura Andrews, (216) 707-2265, **Landrews@clevelandart.org**.